AS

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NOS. 96-002-E, 96-004-E AND 96-006-E - ORDER NO. 96-556 AUGUST 14, 1996

IN RE: Docket No. 96-002-E - Semi-Annual
Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs
of Carolina Power & Light Company.

Docket No. 96-004-E - Semi-Annual
Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs
of South Carolina Electric & Gas
Company.

Docket No. 96-006-E - Semi-Annual
Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs
of Duke Power Company.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the question of interim fuel factors for three of the investor-owned electric utility companies in South Carolina: Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L), South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G), and Duke Power Company (Duke). The South Carolina General Assembly passed during the 1996 legislative year Act No. 348, Statutes at Large (1996) which modified the prior review period for the fuel clause from six (6) months to twelve (12) months. The question now becomes what to do about the present fuel factors established by this Commission for the three electric utility companies which were established for six (6) months periods.

CP&L's present fuel factor is \$.01340 per KWH for the period April 1996 through September 1996, established in Order No. 96-225. SCE&G's fuel factor is \$.01310 per KWH, established for the period May 1996 through October 1996 in Order No. 96-278. Duke's present fuel factor is \$.01000 per KWH, established for the period June 1996 through November 1996, pursuant to Order No. 96-367.

The Commission has examined this matter, and believes that the current fuel factors as established by the above Orders of the Commission should be extended until such time as the Commission may issue a further Order under the new statute. We believe that this procedure is fair to the Companies, and assures stability of fuel factors until such time as the Commission may study them under an extended review period. Therefore, the Commission hereby holds that the present fuel factors established by our Orders shall be continued until further Order of the Commission.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)